



## **Course Description:**

This is a 6 week interactive course that teaches basic chord diagram reading and strumming techniques. The main objective of this course is to improve chord changing and strumming skill by playing popular songs by famous artists like *The Beatles*, *Sheryl Crow*, *Neil Young*, *The Rolling Stones* and others.

This comprehensive guitar course contains video demonstrations, detailed written instructions, illustrations, photos and audio recordings that show exactly how to apply techniques used to strum chords. This is a self-paced course. Instructor Edward Burns is available during the course to answer any questions regarding the lesson content.

***Guitar Chords & Strumming*** consists of 6 lessons in total. Each lesson consists of 5 chapters and one lesson assignment. The lessons are delivered to the students email inbox each Wednesday for 6 weeks.

## **Course Syllabus:**

### **Week One**

#### **Wednesday - Lesson 1 - Positioning Basics and How to Read a Chord Chart**

We'll start by making sure you're in a comfortable, correct playing position. Next we'll examine chord diagrams where you'll learn 4 basic chords. We'll explore the details that go into strumming the strings with a guitar pick or by using your fingers to strum, then we'll practice a strumming rhythm so you can get used to changing between the 4 chords. Lastly, I'll introduce you to a famous song complete with lyrics so you can try to eventually sing along if you want.

### **Week Two**

#### **Wednesday - Lesson 2 - Strumming Rhythms & Exercises**

In this lesson we'll learn some strumming rhythms and play some exercises that will help further your rhythmic control. I'll also introduce you to 2 new chords and show you a technique that will help you smooth out your chord transitions. You'll continue to develop your left and right hand synchronization and independent finger movements and I'll introduce another famous, popular strumming song.

## **Week Three**

### **Wednesday - Lesson 3 - Notes on the Fret Board and Basic Triads**

You're in for another great lesson because we're going to be learning how to find notes on your fret board. This knowledge will help you identify chords more easily. Then I'll show you the components that make up a basic chord. Knowing this will further help you identify certain types of chords. You'll of course, get more experience changing between chords and continue to develop your strumming and rhythm. And of course, I'll show you a really fun popular song you can play.

## **Week Four**

### **Wednesday - Lesson 4 - Moveable Bar Chords**

In this lesson we're going to further explore the fret board by naming moveable bar chords. You'll learn what a "root note" is and I'll re-confirm some music terms you learned if you've taken my first class. I'll introduce you to another type of G chord and show you a new bar chord form, as well as a challenging new chord for this week's strumming song. We'll review the technique for muting x'ed strings and practice a blocking exercise with a chord progression that will help prepare you for the new strumming song.

## **Week Five**

### **Wednesday - Lesson 5 - The Capo and 7<sup>th</sup> Chords**

In this lesson you're going to find out why guitarists use a capo. You know - that device that clamps down on your fret board. You'll learn how it works, why it's used, and how to correctly use it because you'll need it for this week's new song. We'll discuss what a 7<sup>th</sup> chord is and I'll have you build one yourself. Then together we'll learn 5 new chords and discuss different fingering options for some of the chords. I'll help you practice a chord changing exercise and we'll also practice blocking a certain chord progression to help you prepare for the new song.

## **Week Six**

### **Wednesday - Lesson 6 - Understanding Tablature & Inverted Chords**

In this lesson we're going to delve into another type of music notation called tablature. I'll tell you why it's used and give you a practical application using a song you've already learned. Another interesting topic we'll explore is chord inversions. I'll give you some additional information about building basic triads that will help you identify chord inversions. And as usual, you'll get more practice changing your chords by learning another fun strumming song.

